

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

4

CONFIDENTIAL

Action

ARA

Info

SS

G

SP

C

R

OLI

CIA

OSD

ARMY

AIR

NAVY

ND

P

T

ICS

FROM: Guatemala City

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 246, January 25, 7 p.m.

Control: 8708
DEPARTMENT OF STATE January 25, 1954
BUREAU OF 10 43 p.m.
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

JAN 26 1954

Following arrest of Major Oliva (EMBTEL 234 January 22), Guatemalan authorities proceeded to detain other individuals known or believed to be connected with opposition, but rumors of wholesale sweep of opposition elements have not been substantiated. Tension continued but no disturbances of public order were reported. Police searches of vehicles entering and leaving city were instituted January 22 but had been abandoned by January 24. Visit to police headquarters night of January 24 disclosed no extraordinary precautions.

Newspapers this weekend reported detention of Guillermo Davila Cordova who recently identified himself to Embassy as General Ydigoras Fuente's personal representative in Guatemala; Saturnino Barrera, ex-army officer; Roberto Castillo Sinibaldi, Director of anti-Communist "Radio Ciro"; Jose Maria Guzman, editor of anti-Communist news sheet LA OPOSICION; Gabriel Fernandez, nephew of Miguel Camacho (EMBTEL 234); and Oscar Berger, employee Guatemalan Institute of Social Security (IGSS). Berger usybderxnid* to have been released.

Police are also reliably reported to be looking for Luis Belttanena Valladares, prominent figure in Partido Unificacion, anti-Communist (PUA), country's leading anti-Communist Party.

Press reports confirm earlier rumors that Miguel Camacho has taken asylum in Salvadoran Embassy and that Carlos Gandara Duran, anti-Communist journalist and writer, is in Nicaraguan Embassy.

Although police are evidently acting to break up conspiracies against Arbenz administration, Colonel Rogeilo Cruz Wer, Chief of Police, told press today his organization was not holding anyone for plotting, and no connection between persons arrested has yet been made clear.

MAM/8

NOTE: *As received. Will service upon request.

RECEIVED DEPT OF STATE A/CNO/EE

KRIEG

RECEIVED

2/9/52

FEB 18 1954

FILED

Confidential File

PERMANENT
RECORD COPY

• This copy must be returned to DC/R central files with notation of action taken

CONFIDENTIAL

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS
COPY, IF CLASSIFIED, IS
PROHIBITEDThis document is to be returned to
DC/R
Central
Files
714.00/1-2554